

# Local agencies win state drug awards

AUBURN — Three local organizations have received regional awards from the Governor's Commission for a Drug Free Indiana.

The IMAGE drug task force, Drug Free DeKalb County and WFGA Froggy 106.7 radio were honored at the northeast region annual meeting Thursday at the Eagles Nest County Club in Columbia City.

The northeast region of the commission includes 14 counties. Each year it honors outstanding programs in the areas of prevention, treatment and judicial.

Drug Free DeKalb County and WFGA Froggy 106.7 received the award for best prevention program of the year. WFGA, DeKalb County's local radio station, developed a year-long community awareness campaign addressing alcohol, tobacco and other drug issues. The campaign targeted parents, teens and preteens, increasing awareness of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.

Froggy Radio developed commercials for each of the focus areas: prevention, treatment and judicial. The commercials also led to growth for the Drug Free DeKalb County coalition.

Drug Free DeKalb County nominated IMAGE (Indiana Multi-Agency Group Enforcement), which won regional honors for the best judicial program.

IMAGE is a pro-active,



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**Winners of regional awards from the Governor's Commission for a Drug Free Indiana include, from left: Capt. Tim Baker of the Auburn Police Department, accepting an award for the IMAGE drug task force;**

**Brenda Daley, director of Drug Free DeKalb County; Dave Turpchinoff, sales manager for WFGA Froggy 106.7 radio, and Woodrow Zimmerman, program director and morning show host for the radio station.**

multi-jurisdictional law enforcement program that serves four counties area in northeast Indiana (DeKalb, Noble, Steuben and LaGrange).

IMAGE was established in 1993 for investigation and enforcement of drug-related crimes. Over the last 13 years, IMAGE has established a reputation within the law-enforcement community, as well as with the public, as being a successful organization with the arrests, prosecution and

incarceration of drug offenders.

Other regional honors went to LaGrange County for its Amish Youth Vision Project, which provides education and awareness for young adults and youth in the Amish Community.

Honors for volunteer of the year went to Adams County Judge James Heimann. He serves as chairperson for the Adams County coalition.

Also receiving recognition from DeKalb County were Right Relations in the treatment

category and the Waterloo Game Room in the Horizon category for their outstanding work. Renee Brouse of the YMCA was recognized as DeKalb County's Volunteer of the Year.

Brenda Daley, director of Drug Free DeKalb County, said she is proud to be connected with such great programs, businesses, organizations and volunteers.

"I can't say how much I appreciate everyone for their hard work and award-winning attitudes," Daley said.